



U.S. Department of Justice

*United States Attorney
Southern District of Indiana*



*10 West Market Street
Suite 2100
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-3048*

*(317)226-6333
TDD (317)226-5438*

*FAX NUMBERS:
Criminal (317)226-6125
Administration (317)226-5176
Civil (317)226-5027
FLU (317) 226-6133
OCDETF (317)226-5953*

April 9, 2004

CONTACT PERSON:

Claudia Cummings
(317) 229-2477 office
(317) 590-7928 mobile

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**FOUNTAIN COUNTY FELON SENTENCED TO 7 YEARS
FOR POSSESSION OF FIREARM**

PRESS RELEASE

Susan W. Brooks, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana, announced that ANDREW J. COOPER, 28, Indianapolis, was sentenced to 85 months imprisonment today by U.S. District Judge Sarah Evans Barker, following his guilty plea to being a felon in possession of a firearm.. This prosecution follows an investigation by the Fountain County Sheriff's Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, and is part of the PROJECT SAFE NEIGHBORHOODS initiative.

On March 21, 2003, a Fountain County Sheriff's Deputy observed COOPER run a stop sign in Newton, Indiana. The deputy learned that COOPER had no driver's license. The deputy also learned that COOPER had a shotgun in the car. COOPER told the deputy "You

-more-

COOPER - 2

didn't stop me, you just postponed me." COOPER was making threats against his ex-wife.

COOPER had a previous felony conviction from 1997 in Fountain County Circuit Court for criminal recklessness.

According to Assistant United States Attorney Donna R. Eide, who prosecuted the case for the government, Judge Barker placed COOPER on three years supervised release following his term of imprisonment. Judge Barker also recommended the Bureau of Prisons make available drug and alcohol counseling, and mental health counseling to COOPER.

#####

20040409.cooper.fa.wpd